

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed June 8, 2009, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-8 are pending in this application, where claim 4 had been previously canceled, claim 2 has been currently canceled, and claims 6-8 have been currently added, where claim 6 is substantially similar to canceled claim 4. Claims 1 and 7 are independent.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,577,324 (Tanaka) in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,213,536 (Futterer) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,355,464 (Bergsma). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3 and 5-8 are patentable over Tanaka, Futterer and Bergsma for at least the following reasons.

Tanaka is directed to an electric shaver having a shaver head that can be changed in its orientation so as to conform to the facial configuration. As correctly noted by the Examiner on page 2, item 5 of the Final Office Action, Tanaka does not disclose or suggest reversing rotation of anything. Futterer is cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Tanaka.

Futterer is directed to dry shaver having two cutters. A drive shaft 1 is selectively rotated in either direction. The shaft is rotatable in one direction for driving the first cutter (for short hair cutting) and is rotatable in the opposite direction for driving the second cutter (for long hair cutting). As recited on 3, lines 29-44 and line 75, upon or in response to reversing the rotation direction of the drive shaft 1, via a reversing switch 28, either the first or second cutters are driven. That is, driving the first or the second cutters is achieved by "rocking the switch 28 in the opposite switching position." (Futterer, column 4, lines 21-22)

It is respectfully submitted that the Tanaka and Futterer, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the present

invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 7 which, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided) :

wherein the reversing means co-operate with the trimmer for reversing said sense of rotation in response to an action of putting said trimmer into and out of an operation position.

Reversing the rotation sense in response to putting the trimmer into and out of an operation position is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Tanaka, Futterer, and combination thereof. Rather, Futterer discloses driving the first or the second cutters in response to moving the switch 28 in the opposite switching position, as specifically recited on column 4, lines 21-22. Bergsma is cited to allegedly show other features and does not remedy the deficiencies in Tanaka and Futterer.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1 and 7 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3, 5-6 and 8 should also be allowed at least based on its dependence from independent claims 1 and 7.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the

foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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